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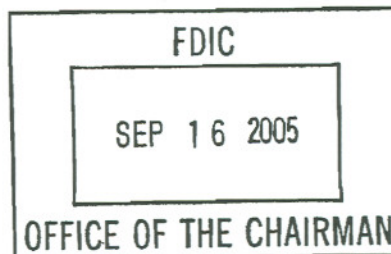
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Mark G. Field
President & Chairman

September 13, 2005

The Honorable Donald E. Powell
Chairman
Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.
550 17th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20429



IN RE: FDIC Application 20051977 - Wal-Mart

Dear Chairman Powell,

My small town lost its hardware store AND its grocery store when Wal-Mart moved in to a nearby town 15 miles away, and this story has been repeated in thousands of communities across our nation. Imagine what would happen to rural villages and towns if the community's deposits, their capital base, were also controlled out of Bentonville, Arkansas...

That type of economic concentration was NOT what our country was founded upon back in 1776. Quite the opposite, in fact. Historically, and ironically, in 1791 Congress chartered the Bank of the United States (later referred to as the FIRST Bank of the United States) to act as the fiscal agent for our government. By 1811, however, Congress opted NOT to extend their charter and the bank was LIQUIDATED. To quote a 1956 Copyright Edition of the book Principles of Bank Operations, "There was a strong and deeply felt hostility to monopoly of all kinds, particularly to a money monopoly. It was this tradition which led Congress during the first decades of the Republic to reject the establishment of a permanent central bank". While our countrymen later agreed that a central bank was necessary for the development of a stable currency to foster trade, our forefathers understood the evils of having too much economic power reduced to the hands of a privileged few. Most ALL Americans would agree to this statement if it were posed to them TODAY! **For this fact ALONE, Wal-Mart's application should be denied.**

Few people could argue that the resilience of the United States' economy today is due in LARGE part to the current independent banking system we enjoy, which rewards rugged individualism, self-reliance and an entrepreneurial spirit. One need only to look at our neighbors to the North to see how the Canadian way of banking has led to a series of tiny villages and major cities, with not a whole lot in between. That's because they have such a concentration of banking assets

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which are all "managed" from a few major cities. How does that encourage investment in rural areas? Our current decentralized system is FAR BETTER OFF with its series of communities of all shapes and sizes, who control their own economic destiny, don't you think?

From a safety and soundness perspective, there are so many good reasons why there should continue to be a TRUE separation of banking and commerce. Imagine what an Enron Bank or a WorldCom Bank would have done to the FDIC insurance funds... **For THAT reason, Wal-Mart's application should be denied.**

If the shareholders of Wal-Mart want to pool their money for a separate charter for a REAL bank which would abide by the same safe and sound practices and procedures that community banks adhere to, let them. But to allow them to circumvent the law of the land through this ILC "loophole", and in the process demolish a long-standing law designed to protect our nation's financial system from undue concentration and risk would be an absolute travesty of the principles upon which our country was founded. **For this reason, their application should be denied.**

We trust that after the FDIC performs a diligent review of ALL of the ramifications of Application #20051977, that it will be DENIED. Should the application be approved, a new slogan will become prevalent throughout our country - WATCH FOR FALLING COMMUNITIES!!!

Thank you for your time and consideration, and for your continued efforts to maintain our vibrant banking system and our country's growing economy.

Sincerely,



Mark G. Field
President & Chairman
The Farmers Bank of Liberty